

CIA/OCI/BRIEF 185-75  
2 DECEMBER 1975

Approved For Release 2001/08/21 : CIA-RDP89-00680R000300040087-1

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EAST ASIA BRIEF 185-754

1. TIMOR-INDONESIA: IN RESPONSE TO THE UNILATERAL DECLARATION OF TIMORESE INDEPENDENCE LAST FRIDAY BY THE LEFT-WING FRETILIN PARTY, JAKARTA IS INCREASING MILITARY AND POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR LOCAL GROUPS THAT ADVOCATE INTEGRATION WITH INDONESIA.Y

INDONESIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MALIK FLEW TO TIMOR ON MONDAY FOR TALKS WITH INTEGRATIONIST LEADERS, WHO HAD DECLARED THE COLONY A PART OF INDONESIA THE DAY AFTER THE FRETILIN ANNOUNCEMENT. THESE MEETINGS COULD PRODUCE A PUBLIC APPEAL FROM THE PRO-INDONESIA PARTIES FOR OVERT INTERVENTION TO RESTORE ORDER AND ASSURE DECOLONIZATION IN ACCORD WITH WHAT THE INTEGRATIONISTS CLAIM IS MAJORITY SENTIMENT FOR INCORPORATION INTO INDONESIA.Y

BEFORE LEAVING JAKARTA, MALIK SAID IN EFFECT THAT THE FRETILIN DECLARATION HAD SO CHANGED THE SITUATION IN TIMOR THAT A NEGOTIATED POLITICAL SOLUTION ON THE BASIS OF PRIOR UNDERSTANDINGS WITH LISBON WAS NO LONGER POSSIBLE. JAKARTA IS PUBLICLY BLAMING LISBON FOR THE FRETILIN DECLARATION, IMPLYING COLLUSION BETWEEN THE PORTUGUESE AND THE TIMORESE RADICALS, AND IS CLAIMING THAT TIMOR IS NOW WITHOUT

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ANY RECOGNIZED LEGAL AUTHORITY.4

FRETILIN'S BID FOR INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT HAS FALLEN ON DEAF EARS. AUSTRALIA AND PORTUGAL HAVE PUBLICLY REJECTED THE INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION. THUS FAR FEW FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS HAVE RECOGNIZED FRETILIN AS AN INDEPENDENT STATE ON TIMOR. SOME FORMER PORTUGUESE COLONIES MAY RECOGNIZE THE NEW STATE, AND THE MORE RADICAL MEMBERS OF THE THIRD WORLD MAY ALSO DECIDE TO SIDE WITH FRETILIN BECAUSE THEY DISLIKE THE SUHARTO REGIME. SUCH SUPPORT IS UNLIKELY TO IMPROVE THE FRETILIN STATE'S SLIM PROSPECTS FOR SURVIVAL. {CONFIDENTIAL} E-2 IMPDET.H

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EUROPEAN BRIEF 185-75.4

1. USSR: THE SOVIET COMMUNIST PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE ANNOUNCED ON MONDAY THAT GENERAL SECRETARY BREZHNEV WILL DELIVER THE MAIN REPORT AT THE PARTY CONGRESS THAT OPENS FEBRUARY 24. PREMIER KOSYGIN WILL SPEAK ON THE NEXT FIVE-YEAR ECONOMIC PLAN (1976-80). THIS IS THE STANDARD PATTERN FOR A PARTY CONGRESS.4

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE DID NOT ANNOUNCE THE AGENDA LAST APRIL WHEN IT SET A DATE FOR THE CONGRESS, PERHAPS BECAUSE OF UNCERTAINTY OVER TOPICS AND SPEAKERS. THE ANNOUNCEMENT NOW THAT BREZHNEV WILL SPEAK INDICATES THAT, HEALTH PERMITTING, HE WILL BE IN OFFICE THROUGH THE CONGRESS, ALTHOUGH IT DOES NOT CARRY ANY IMPLICATIONS FOR THE PERIOD THAT FOLLOWS.4

BREZHNEV MADE HIS CUSTOMARY ADDRESS TO THE END-OF-YEAR PLENUM ON MONDAY, BUT THE TEXT OF HIS SPEECH PROBABLY WILL NOT BE MADE PUBLIC. AT THE MEETING, THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE APPROVED NEXT YEAR'S ECONOMIC PLAN AND BUDGET; THE SUPREME SOVIET BEGINS DISCUSSION OF THEM TODAY. {CONFIDENTIAL}

2. CZECHOSLOVAKIA-USSR: THE VISIT OF CZECHOSLOVAK PARTY CHIEF AND

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PRESIDENT HUSAK TO THE USSR LAST WEEK WAS LONG ON CEREMONY BUT SHORT ON SUBSTANCE.4

THE SOVIETS PULLED OUT ALL THE PROTOCOL STOPS FOR THE CZECHOSLOVAK DELEGATION, WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON HUSAK. BREZHNEV AND SIX OTHER POLITBURO MEMBERS MET AND SAW OFF THE DELEGATION, THE TWO LEADERS HAD A PRIVATE MEETING, ALL MOSCOW-BASED POLITBURO MEMBERS ATTENDED THE KREMLIN RECEPTION, AND BREZHNEV PUT IN AN APPEARANCE AT THE CZECHOSLOVAK EMBASSY'S RECEPTION. IN ADDITION, THE VISIT POINTED UP THE PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HUSAK AND BREZHNEV, AND THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE EXPRESSED COMPLETE MUTUAL CONFIDENCE AND RESPECT "BETWEEN THE TWO CENTRAL COMMITTEES HEADED BY COMRADES L. I. BREZHNEV AND G. HUSAK."4

HUSAK RESPONDED WITH EXPANSIVE PRAISE FOR BREZHNEV AS A PERSON AND WITH "ENTHUSIASTIC" SUPPORT FOR HIS POLICIES. THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE PLEDGED BOTH SIDES TO CONTINUE CLOSE COORDINATION OF FOREIGN POLITICAL

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ACTIVITY, TO "PERFECT THE COOPERATION WITHIN THE  
WARSAW PACT," AND TO SHARE "TO THE MAXIMUM" THE TASK  
OF CEMA INTEGRATION. IT ALSO REAFFIRMED MUTUAL RE-  
SOLVE TO COMPLETE THE PREPARATIONS AND HOLD A  
EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTY CONFERENCE.4

BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED "DEEP SATISFACTION" WITH  
THE RESULTS OF CSCE AND PLEDGED TO "CONSISTENTLY  
CARRY OUT THE PRINCIPLES AND AGREEMENTS ENSHRINED IN  
THE FINAL ACT." BREZHNEV LASHED OUT AGAINST WESTERN  
ENEMIES OF DETENTE IN HIS NOVEMBER 25 KREMLIN TOAST,  
AND HUSAK WARNED THAT THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE TO DETENTE  
IS A RETURN TO THE COLD WAR.4

THE SUBSTANCE OF THE TALKS HAS NOT BEEN REVEALED.  
STATEMENTS BY HUSAK IN A POST-TRIP INTERVIEW, HOWEVER,  
SUGGEST THAT ECONOMIC TOPICS, INCLUDING COOPERATION  
BEYOND 1980, WERE INVOLVED. THIS IMPRESSION IS REIN-  
FORCED BY THE PRESENCE OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK STATE

PLANNING HEAD.4

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THE COMMUNIQUE'S WORDING ON STRENGTHENING THE STRUGGLE AGAINST "ALL MANIFESTATIONS OF ANTI-COMMUNISM, REVISIONISM, AND OPPORTUNISM" MAY REFER TO THE CZECH-OSLOVAK DISSIDENTS WHO CONTINUE TO NEEDLE THE REGIME. THE LANGUAGE COULD ALSO APPLY TO WESTERN COMMUNISTS WHO HAVE BEEN THE SUBJECT OF SHARPLY WORDED ARTICLES IN THE SOVIET PRESS.4

THE COMMUNIQUE DENOUNCES THE MAOISTS, AGAINST WHOM PRAGUE APPEARS WILLING TO SERVE AS MOSCOW'S SHIELD-BEARER. {CONFIDENTIAL}

3. USSR-ROMANIA: AFTER WEEKS OF DIFFICULT NEGOTIATIONS, ROMANIA AND THE SOVIET UNION FINALLY SIGNED THEIR 1976-80 ECONOMIC PLAN COORDINATION PROTOCOL ON NOVEMBER 28. THE PROTOCOL IS THE LAST TO BE CONCLUDED BETWEEN THE USSR AND THE OTHER CEMA MEMBER COUNTRIES. MOST OF THE OTHERS WERE SIGNED IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER.4

THE SHORT, RESTRAINED TASS ANNOUNCEMENT IS

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INDICATIVE OF THE PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED DURING THE PROLONGED NEGOTIATIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, THERE IS NO REFERENCE TO A "WARM" OR EVEN "COMRADELY" ATMOSPHERE. NEITHER IS THERE "AGREEMENT" ON THE TYPES OF INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION TO BE CARRIED OUT, ONLY AN "UNDERSTANDING" ON JOINT COOPERATION IN MINING, METALLURGICAL, AND CELLULOSE-PAPER INDUSTRIES. THESE THREE INDUSTRIES ARE CEMA MULTILATERAL PROJECTS IN WHICH ROMANIA IS ALREADY INVOLVED--CELLULOSE AT UST ILIM, ASBESTOS AT KIEMBAYEV, AND FERRO-ALLOYS AT KURSK. Y

THE SOVIETS AGREED TO DELIVER SEVERAL UNSPECIFIED TYPES OF RAW MATERIALS BUT APPARENTLY DID NOT ACCEDE TO ROMANIAN REQUESTS FOR OIL AND FOR LARGE INCREASES IN COKING COAL. THE SOVIETS ALSO AGREED TO DELIVER EQUIPMENT FOR ROMANIA'S METALLURGICAL, ENERGY, AND CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES. Y

FOR ITS PART, OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

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BUCHAREST WILL SEND TO THE USSR SHIPS, MACHINERY FOR THE PRODUCTION OF MINERAL FERTILIZERS AND FOR THE OIL INDUSTRY, AND CHEMICAL AND METAL CASTING EQUIPMENT.

THE CLIMATE MAY NOW BE SLIGHTLY IMPROVED FOR A CEMA SUMMIT. THE EMBASSY IN MOSCOW, HOWEVER, REPORTS NO WORD ON PROGRESS IN RESOLVING ROMANIAN-SOVIET DIFFERENCES OVER FUTURE CEMA-EC RELATIONS.  
 {CONFIDENTIAL}

4. HUNGARY: THE PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE APPROVED THE MAIN LINES OF HUNGARIAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UNTIL 1980 AND DECIDED ON CONSUMER PRICE INCREASES AT A TWO-DAY SESSION THAT ENDED NOVEMBER 27.4

UNDER THE NEW PLAN TARGETS, THE ECONOMY WILL GROW AT A SLOWER RATE AND STANDARD OF LIVING IMPROVEMENTS WILL NOT MATCH THOSE OF THE PAST FIVE YEARS. THE REGIME HAS PARED BACK INVESTMENT GROWTH RATES AND IS CLEARLY COUNTING HEAVILY ON PRODUCTIVITY GAINS TO

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SPUR ECONOMIC GROWTH. THESE MORE MODEST GOALS, WHICH WERE HINTED AT EARLIER BY TOP-LEVEL SPOKESMEN, ARE NECESSARY BECAUSE THE RESOURCE-POOR HUNGARIAN ECONOMY HAS BEEN SEVERELY STRAINED BY HIGHER WESTERN AND SO-VIET PRICES FOR OIL AND OTHER RAW MATERIALS.4

THE COMMUNIQUE ALSO STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF INCREASING TRADE WITH THE WEST AND RE-ESTABLISHING THE EQUILIBRIUM IN HUNGARY'S BALANCE OF TRADE WITH THE WEST, WHICH HAS BEEN RUNNING A YEARLY DEFICIT SINCE 1970. BUDAPEST WANTS TO IMPORT WESTERN TECHNOLOGY TO MAKE ITS PRODUCTS MORE COMPETITIVE IN THE WEST, BUT HAS BEEN UNABLE TO INCREASE EXPORTS ENOUGH TO PAY FOR THESE VITAL IMPORTS.4

TRADE WITH THE WEST IS SLATED TO INCREASE FASTER THAN TRADE WITH THE COMMUNIST BLOC. IN AN APPARENT EFFORT TO HEDGE AGAINST FURTHER POSSIBLE DETERIORATION IN HUNGARY'S TERMS OF TRADE, NATIONAL INCOME IS TO INCREASE FASTER THAN TOTAL DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION

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AND INVESTMENT. NORMALLY, THE LATTER TWO CATEGORIES ADD UP TO TOTAL NATIONAL INCOME. IN 1974, HUNGARY'S TERMS OF TRADE WITH THE WEST DETERIORATED BY APPROXIMATELY 15 PERCENT.4

IN AN APPARENT EFFORT TO STIFLE ANY RUMORMONGERING ON CONSUMER PRICE INCREASES, THE REGIME LAID OUT ITS PLANS THROUGH 1976. SUGAR PRICES WILL IMMEDIATELY INCREASE 50 PERCENT AND PRICES OF MEAT PRODUCTS WILL GO UP AN AVERAGE OF 32-33 PERCENT NEXT JULY. RETAIL PRICES OF THOSE BUILDING MATERIALS, FURNITURE, PAPER PRODUCTS NOT RAISED IN AUGUST AND OF CERTAIN SERVICES WILL BE INCREASED ON JANUARY 1. WHILE THE EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT MAY LEAD TO SOME HOARDING, THE REGIME PROBABLY CALCULATED THAT THIS WAS PREFERABLE TO UNCERTAINTY. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE HUNGARIAN ACTION MAY GIVE NEW IMPETUS TO RUMORS OF PRICE INCREASES ELSEWHERE IN EASTERN EUROPE.4

AT ONE TIME, THE INCREASE IN PRICES OF MEAT

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PRODUCTS WAS SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY. THE DELAY IN THEIR IMPLEMENTATION MAY BE IN DEFERENCE TO POLISH SENSITIVITIES. MOREOVER, THEY WILL BE PARTIALLY OFF-SET BY SPECIAL WAGE AND INCOME RAISES. {CONFIDENTIAL}4

5. USSR-YUGOSLAVIA: ON THURSDAY, PRAVDA RAN AN AUTHORITATIVE ANTI ARTICLE THAT SEEMS DESIGNED TO LIMIT THE DAMAGE TO YUGOSLAV-SOVIET RELATIONS CAUSED BY THE ANTI-COMINFORMIST CAMPAIGN IN YUGOSLAVIA. THE ARTICLE CARRIED THE BYLINE I. ALEXANDROV, A PSEUDONYM WHICH MEANS THAT IT HAS THE IMPRIMATUR OF THE TOP KREMLIN LEADERSHIP.4

THE ARTICLE IS THE MOST AUTHORITATIVE STATEMENT OUT OF MOSCOW ON THE COMINFORMIST AFFAIR SINCE THE MATTER BECAME A CAUSE CELEBRE IN YUGOSLAVIA WELL OVER A YEAR AGO.4

ALEXANDROV USES THE SHOPWORN TECHNIQUE OF CASTIGATING "WESTERN CIRCLES" FOR MEDDLING IN YUGOSLAVIA'S AFFAIRS BY SUPPORTING REACTIONARY GROUPS AND FOR PROMOTING THE IDEA THAT THE SOVIET UNION THREATENS BEL-

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GRADE'S INDEPENDENCE. IN DENYING THESE "SLANDERS," THE ARTICLE EVEN GOES SO FAR AS TO SAY THE USSR DOES NOT OPPOSE YUGOSLAVIA'S INDEPENDENT DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICY.

THE ARTICLE ALSO SAYS POSITIVE THINGS ABOUT TITO'S CURRENT EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN HIS PARTY AGAINST THE OPPONENTS OF SOCIALISM. ALEXANDROV SPECIFICALLY MENTIONS "COTERIES" AND "INDIVIDUAL RENEGADES" WHO CONSIDER THEMSELVES THE MOST "ORTHODOX" CHAMPIONS OF SOCIALISM--A CLEAR REFERENCE TO THE COMINFORMISTS. IN LABELING THEM LEFTIST SECTARIAN, THE SOVIETS SEEM TO BE SAYING, FOR THE FIRST TIME, THAT NOT ONLY ARE THEY NOT GETTING SUPPORT FROM MOSCOW, BUT THAT THEY ARE NOT IDEOLOGICALLY WORTHY OF SUPPORT.

THE ARTICLE WAS PROBABLY PROMPTED BY THE NEW MOMENTUM IN TITO'S ANTI-COMINFORMIST CAMPAIGN AND BY THE POSSIBILITY THAT A PUBLIC TRIAL OF THE COMINFORMISTS WILL RESULT IN MORE EVIDENCE OF MOSCOW'S

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INVOLVEMENT. THE SOVIETS MAY HOPE THAT THE ALEX-ANDROV STATEMENT OF NON-SUPPORT FOR THE COMINFORMISTS WILL CAUSE TITO TO FORGO A PUBLIC TRIAL AND OTHERWISE DE-EMPHASIZE THE ANTI-SOVIET ASPECTS OF HIS PUSH FOR GREATER INTERNAL VIGILANCE. {CONFIDENTIAL}4

6. EAST GERMANY: THE EAST GERMAN PARTY PLENUM ON NOVEMBER 26-27 EXAMINED DOCUMENTS TO BE PRESENTED AT NEXT YEAR'S PARTY CONGRESS, INCLUDING DRAFTS OF THE NEW PARTY PROGRAM, REVISED PARTY STATUTES, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR 1976-80, AND THE RECENT EAST GERMAN - SOVIET FRIENDSHIP TREATY. THE PLENUM PRODUCED NO SURPRISES, AND THE SPEAKERS FREQUENTLY PUNCTUATED THEIR REMARKS WITH PRO-SOVIET PLATITUDES.4

THE POLITBURO REPORT PROPOSED THAT THE DRAFT DOCUMENTS BE PUBLISHED IN JANUARY 1976, UNDOUBTEDLY IN ORDER TO AFFORD TIME FOR DEBATE AND POSSIBLE REVISION BEFORE THE FINAL VERSION IS PRESENTED TO THE PARTY CONGRESS IN MAY. POLITBURO CANDIDATE MEMBER

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JAROWINSKY DELIVERED THE POLITBURO'S REPORT, WHILE STATE PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIRMAN SCHUERER SPOKE ON THE 1976 DRAFT NATIONAL ECONOMIC PLAN. JAROWINSKY'S PRESENTATION APPEARS TO BE AN ATTEMPT TO LAY TO REST RUMORS THAT HE WAS IN TROUBLE BECAUSE OF SUPPLY PROBLEMS ON THE ECONOMIC FRONT.

THE MAJOR THEME OF THE POLITBURO'S REPORT, AS EXPECTED, WAS PROPER OBEISANCE TO THE NEW SOVIET - EAST GERMAN FRIENDSHIP TREATY. ONCE AGAIN EMPHASIS WAS GIVEN TO THE CONSOLIDATION AND INTENSIFICATION OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN MOSCOW AND EAST BERLIN, THE INVIOABILITY OF FRONTIERS (WITH SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO THE BORDER BETWEEN THE TWO GERMAN STATES), AND THE SPECIAL STATUS OF WEST BERLIN. THE REPORT TOOK A SLAP AT BONN BY CRITICIZING "NATIONALIST CIRCLES AND OTHER REACTIONARY FORCES, WHICH, ON THE PRETEXT OF NATIONAL UNITY, TRY TO HINDER THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GDR AND DETACH IT FROM THE SOCIAL-

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IST COMMUNITY." THE EAST GERMAN TITULAR HEAD OF STATE, WILLI STOPH, STATED THAT "ANY ILLUSIONS IN THE FUTURE ABOUT REUNIFICATION AND SO-CALLED INTRA-GERMAN RELATIONS ARE ALSO DOOMED TO FAILURE."

ON THE ECONOMIC FRONT, THE REGIME CALLED FOR TOP PRIORITY FOR IMPROVING LIVING STANDARDS. ITS AIM IS TO INCREASE THE MATERIAL AND CULTURAL STANDARDS OF LIVING THROUGH A HIGH RATE OF DEVELOPMENT IN PRODUCTION, INCREASED EFFICIENCY, AND THE GROWTH OF LABOR PRODUCTIVITY. THE REGIME CONTINUES TO MONITOR CONSUMER DESIRES CLOSELY. THE REPORT ALSO NOTED THE SUCCESSFUL COORDINATION OF EAST GERMANY'S FIVE-YEAR PLAN WITH THE FIVE YEAR PLANS OF CEMA STATES.

THE PLENUM DISCUSSED DRAFTS OF A REVISED PARTY PROGRAM AND PARTY STATUTES. ALL REFERENCES TO GERMAN REUNIFICATION WILL PROBABLY BE DROPPED FROM BOTH THE PROGRAM AND STATUTES. INCREASED EMPHASIS WILL VERY LIKELY BE PLACED ON THE NEED TO STRENGTHEN SOCIALISM.

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INCREASE PARTY IDEOPOLITICAL WORK, PROMOTE ABGRENZUNG  
{THE IDENTITY OF A SEPARATE EAST GERMAN NATIONALITY},  
UPGRADE PARTY MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS, AND ON A "NEW"  
EAST GERMANY. THE LAST TAKES INTO CONSIDERATION EAST  
GERMANY'S NEW INTERNATIONAL STATUS IN THE ERA OF  
DETENTE, HELSINKI, AND UN MEMBERSHIP.4

THE SECTION OF THE POLITBURO REPORT ON THE DE-  
VELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS GAVE SPECIAL  
PROMINENCE TO THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE EUROPEAN COM-  
MUNIST PARTY CONFERENCE. THE CONFERENCE DRAFTING  
COMMISSION IN EAST BERLIN WAS INSTRUCTED TO CONTINUE  
WORK ON THE EXISTING DRAFT AND TO "TAKE INTO ACCOUNT"  
THE DISCUSSIONS THUS FAR." THE RESULTS ARE TO BE  
SUBMITTED TO THE DRAFTING COMMISSION'S NEXT MEETING  
IN JANUARY 1976. {CONFIDENTIAL} E-2 IMPDET.H

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MIDDLE EAST AFRICA BRIEF 165-75.4

1. ISRAEL: IN A RELATIVELY RESTRAINED RESPONSE TO SUNDAY'S UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION, THE ISRAELI CABINET ON MONDAY REJECTED THE COUNCIL'S LINKAGE OF THE QUESTION OF RENEWING THE UN MANDATE ON THE GOLAN HEIGHTS TO BROADER POLITICAL ISSUES INVOLVING THE PALESTINIANS. THE CABINET SAID ISRAEL WOULD ADHERE TO THE ISRAELI-SYRIAN DISENGAGEMENT ON THE GOLAN, BUT IT REJECTED THOSE PORTIONS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL'S DECISION THAT ARE NOT STRICTLY CONNECTED WITH THE DISENGAGEMENT.4

THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION CALLED FOR A DEBATE IN JANUARY ON THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM "INCLUDING THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION." A SEPARATE STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING, WHICH WAS SUPPORTED BY A MAJORITY OF THE COUNCIL, URGED THAT THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DEBATE.4

THE CABINET STATEMENT SAID ISRAEL REGARDS THE COUNCIL ACTION AS "LIKELY TO DISRUPT" PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE. IT REITERATED ISRAEL'S DETERMINATION NOT TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE PLO IN ANY FORUM OR TO ATTEND THE GENEVA CONFERENCE IF THE PLO IS INVITED. THE

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STATEMENT DID NOT CLOSE THE DOOR TO FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS WITH SYRIA. IT NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT A MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE HAS NOW BEEN AUTHORIZED TO "DISCUSS AND DECIDE" ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW SETTLEMENTS IN THE GOLAN HEIGHTS. THE GOVERNMENT HAS REFUSED FOR THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS TO ACT ON APPLICATIONS FOR NEW SETTLEMENTS IN ORDER NOT TO JEOPARDIZE ANY FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS WITH SYRIA.4

THE SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION WILL PROBABLY TRIGGER A STRONG RESPONSE IN ISRAEL IN FAVOR OF ADOPTING AN INTRANSIGENT POSITION TOWARD FUTURE NEGOTIATING INITIATIVES AND POSSIBLY IN FAVOR OF BOYCOTTING NEGOTIATIONS IN ANY FORUM. NEVERTHELESS, THE RABIN GOVERNMENT, ANXIOUS TO AVOID FURTHER DIPLOMATIC ISOLATION, IS LIKELY EVENTUALLY TO BEGIN CASTING ABOUT FOR SOME MEANS TO ACCOMMODATE FOREIGN PRESSURE TO FACE UP TO THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE, WHILE STILL TRYING TO AVOID NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE PLO.4

THE CABINET DEBATE APPARENTLY PROVOKED A RECOMMENDATION FROM SOME MINISTERS THAT ISRAEL REVISE ITS POSITION ON THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION, BUT IN THE END ANY SUCH ACCOMMODATION WAS REJECTED, AT

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LEAST FOR THE PRESENT. ACCORDING TO JERUSALEM RADIO REPORTS, FIVE MINISTERS PROPOSED THAT THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCE THAT ISRAEL WOULD NEGOTIATE WITH ANY PALESTINIAN ELEMENT THAT RECOGNIZED ISRAEL'S EXISTENCE.4

THIS IS A POSITION THE GOVERNMENT HAS CONSISTENTLY REJECTED. THE MINISTERS APPARENTLY DROPPED THEIR RECOMMENDATION IN THE COURSE OF THE DEBATE; THE VOTE ON THE FINAL CABINET STATEMENT WAS UNANIMOUS. THE MINISTER WHO LED THE MOVE HAS TOLD REPORTERS, HOWEVER, THAT HE WILL RAISE THE ISSUE AGAIN IN GOVERNMENT DEBATES.4

SYRIA, THE PLO, AND EGYPT NOT UNEXPECTEDLY HAVE ISSUED STATEMENTS EXPRESSING SATISFACTION WITH THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION.

{CONFIDENTIAL} E-2, IMPDET.H

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